

RE: Your meeting today, Sat., 5/30

Thank you for taking to the Unemp. Dept. today, and getting answers. I'm one who applied 10 weeks ago, for the reg. unemp., and still NO money!!!

On KATU news the other night, **the unemployment dept. said it takes 6-8 weeks to train new employees.** That is crazy!!!

*** **Please ask them about this today when you meet.** They should be able to hire people, train them within a few days, so they can start looking over the claims & apps. They at least could check them and make sure all the info. was there, and all the boxes were checked correctly. And anyone could do that! Then they pass it on to another employee, with more experience to process it or deal with any other issues. This would really help to make the process go quicker!

ALSO--they said: "Erickson and Gerstenfeld told lawmakers that PUA claims are taking longer to process than a regular unemployment claim. We have to do everything required for a regular [unemployment insurance] claim first, to determine if they are eligible. Then, do the additional work to complete the PUA processing for that program," said Gerstenfeld."

That is really bad! Obviously, us PUA's DON'T qualify for regular unemp., so why are they wasting time seeing if we are eligible for that??!! We all know we aren't. They need to go straight to our PUA apps. and work on those!! Just this week (9 weeks from when I first applied!), I got a "Non-Valid" claim. Now I have to wait, who knows how long, for them to process the PUA!

I filled out a PUA app. the end of Apr. (when they got it on the website). Now I was told by Work Source, that I have to fill out that app. all over again and the 9 weeks of claims AGAIN ("because they said this is a new link and the computers can't talk to each other!"). Then they said my "new" app. will then be on the bottom of the list!! This is ridiculous!!! It really seems like they are stalling, and making excuses, just so they don't have to pay. Also, they are making a lot of interest on all the money they are not paying out (including the \$600/week/person from the Fed. Gov't.)!!!

Thank you for your help for all of us, and bringing these things up today, with your meeting.

Janet